

WAAESD Results

ESCOP B&L Priorities Survey

July 16, 2013

Response Rates (51 Responses)

Association	Respondents	Regional Response Rate (%) [*]	National Response Rate (%)
ARD	7	38	14
NCRA	8	53	16
NERA	12	92	24
SAAESD	14	93	28
WAAESD	10	58	20

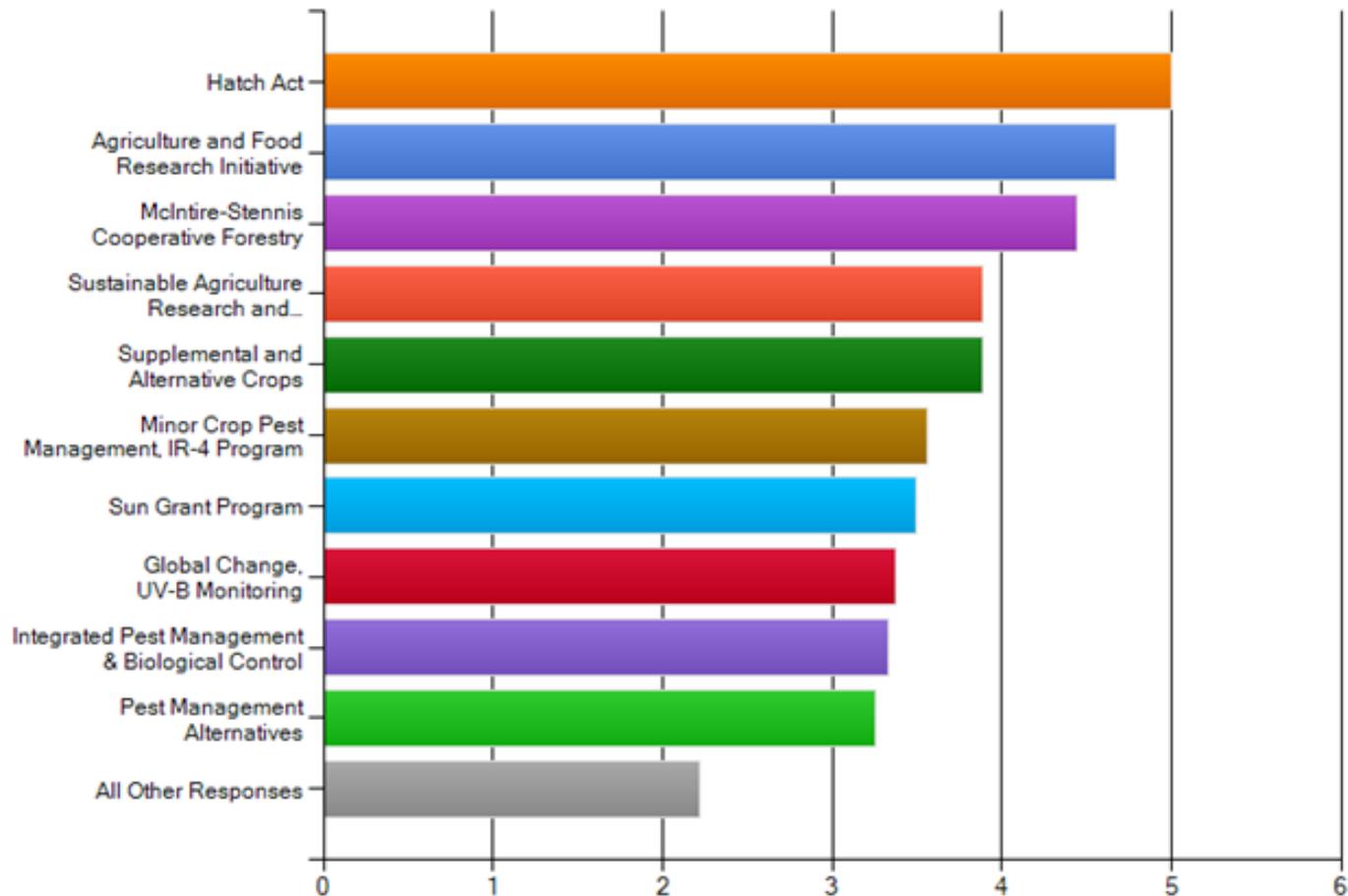
^{*} Based on number of institutions in region

Ranking of NIFA budget relating to research activities

	WAAESD	National
Hatch Act	1	1
AFRI	2	2
M-S Coop Forestry	3	3
Evans Allen Program		4
SARE	4	7
Animal Health - Disease		6
Sup./Alternative Crops	5	9
IR-4 Program	6	8
Sun Grant Program	7	
Global Climate /UV-B	8	
IPM/Regional Centers	9	5
Pest Mgt Alternatives	10	10

Q-1 WAAESD Summary

Below are all of the lines in the NIFA budget relating to research activities. Please rank each item.



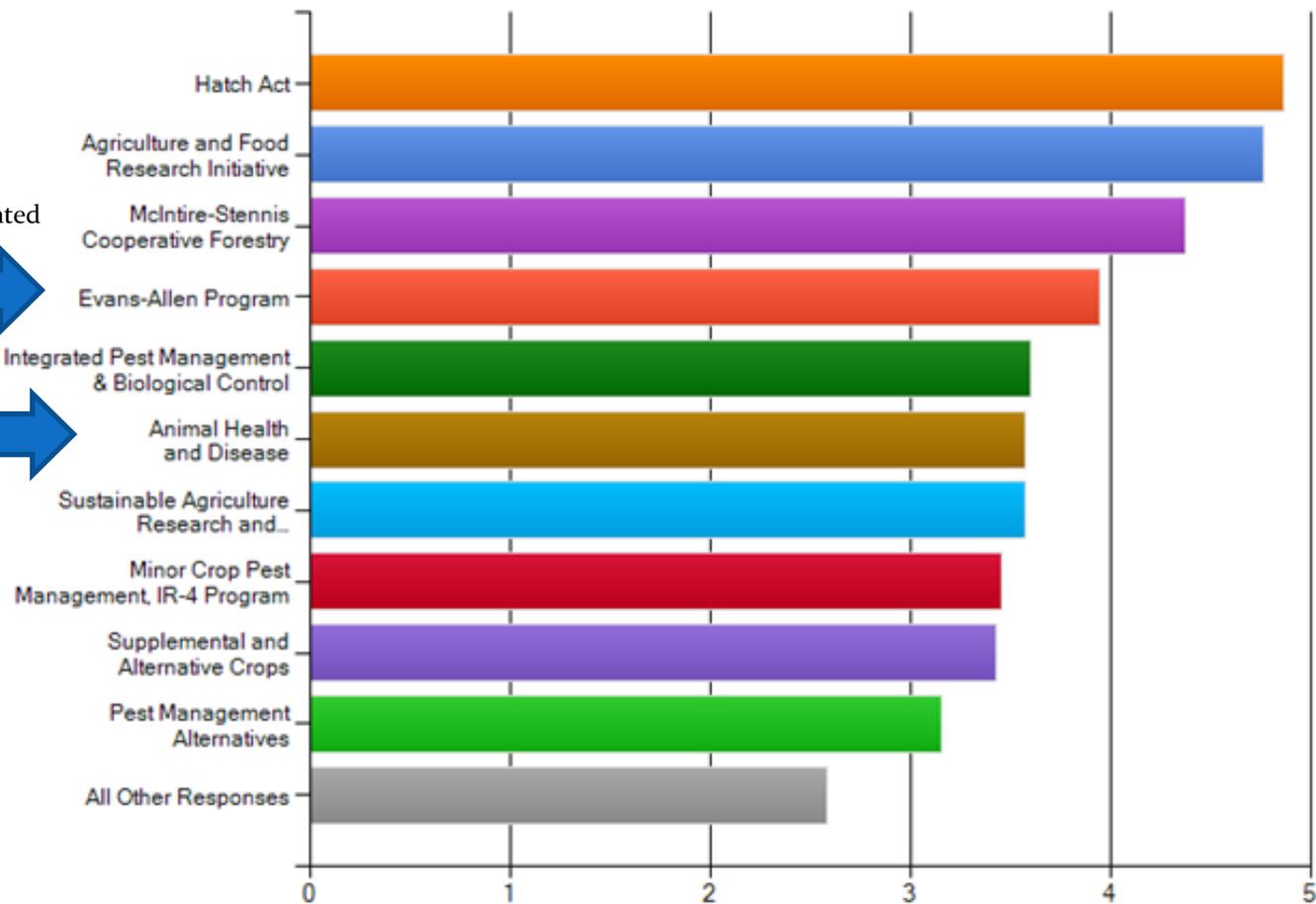
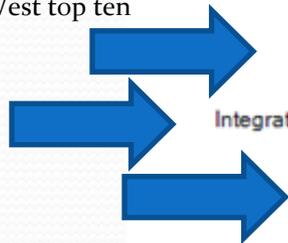
Q-1 Lowest rankings – WAAESD

1994 Research Grants	1.9
Joe Skeen Institute	1.9
Farm Business Management and Benchmarking Program	1.7
Capacity Building for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture	1.7
Federal Administration (Direct Appropriation)	1.6

Q-1 National Summary

Below are all of the lines in the NIFA budget relating to research activities. Please rank each item.

Programs not represented
in West top ten

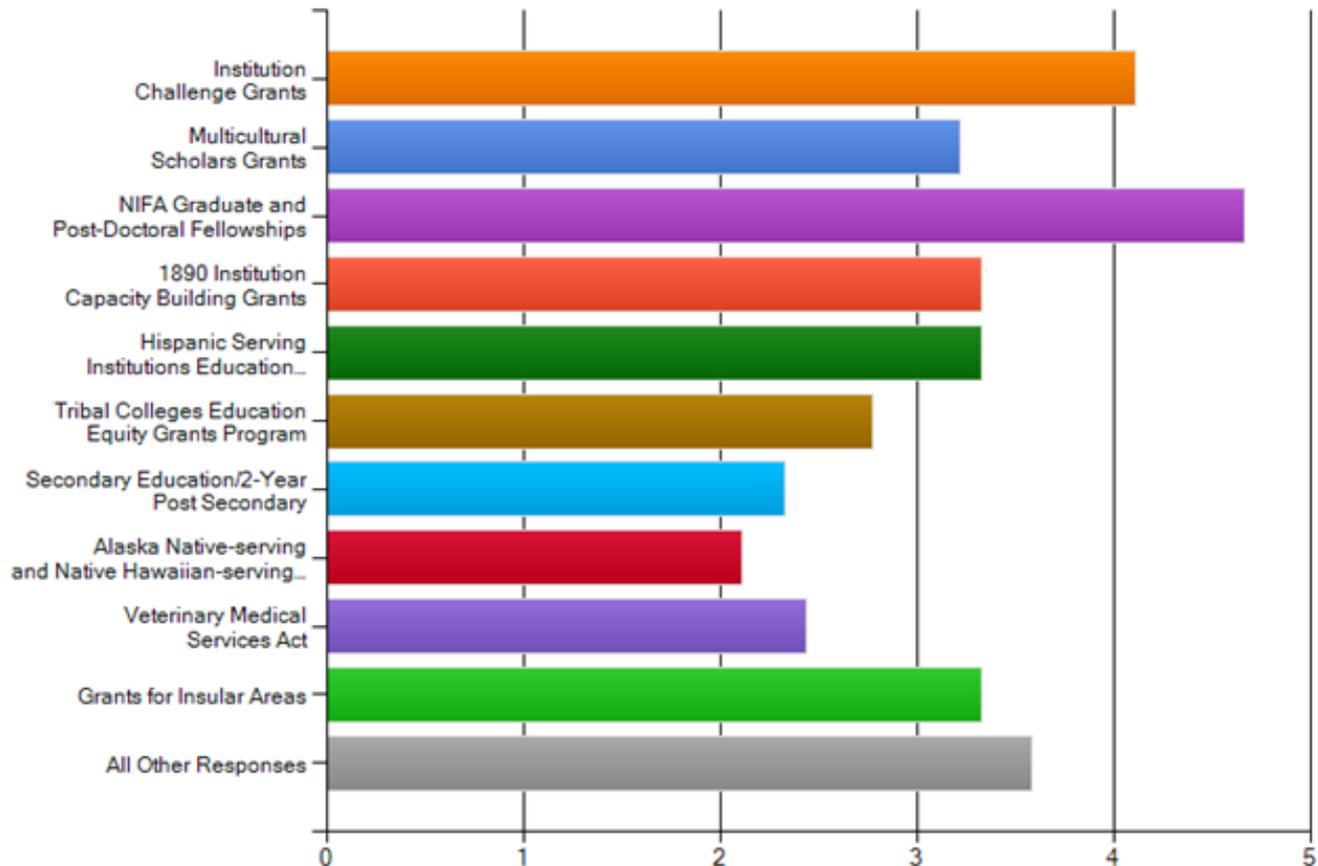


Q-1 Lowest rankings - National

Critical Ag Materials	2.46
Farm Business Management and Benchmarking Program	2.42
Federal Administration (Direct Appropriation)	2.37
Joe Skeen Institute	2.02
Capacity Building for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture	1.77

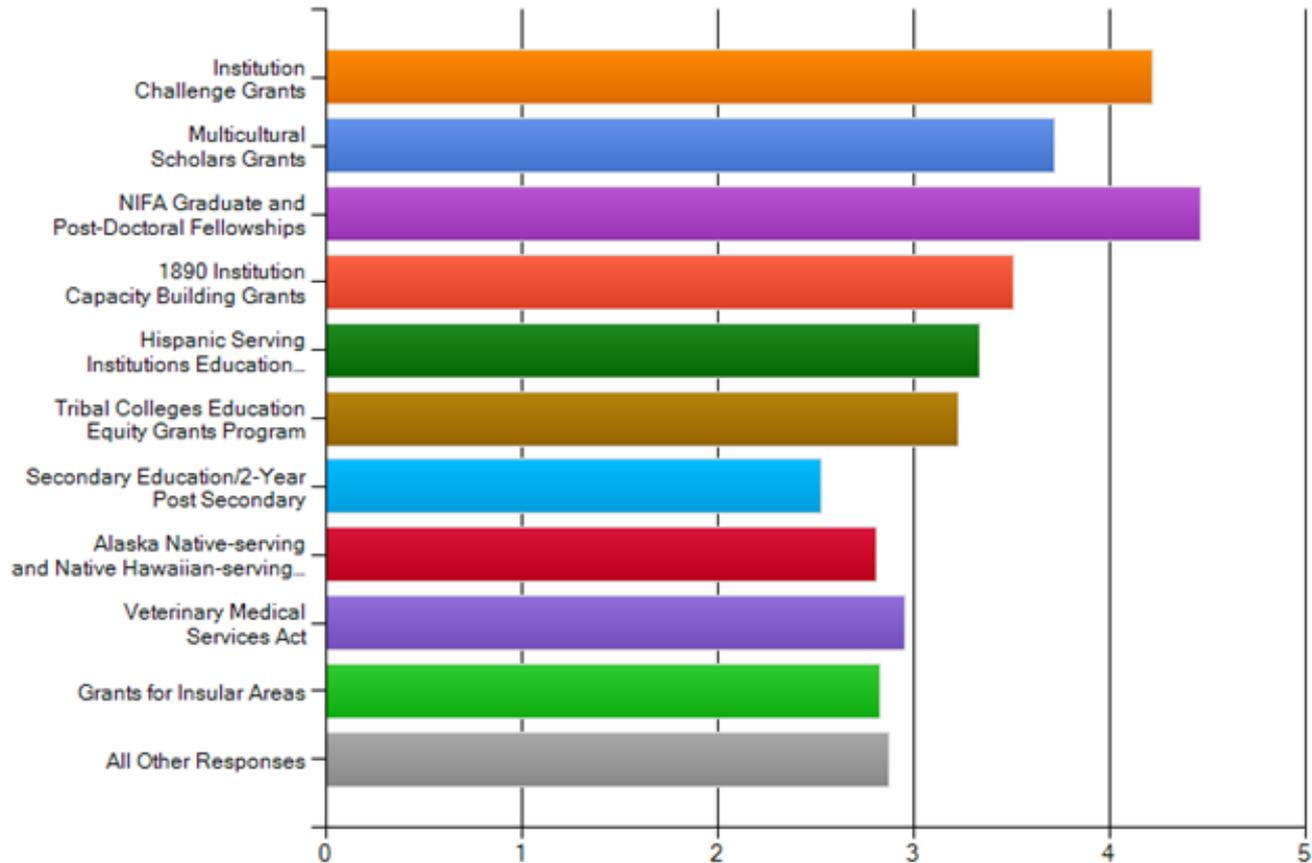
Q-2 WAAESD Summary

Below are all of the lines in the NIFA budget relating to Higher Education. Please rank each item.



Q-2 National Summary*

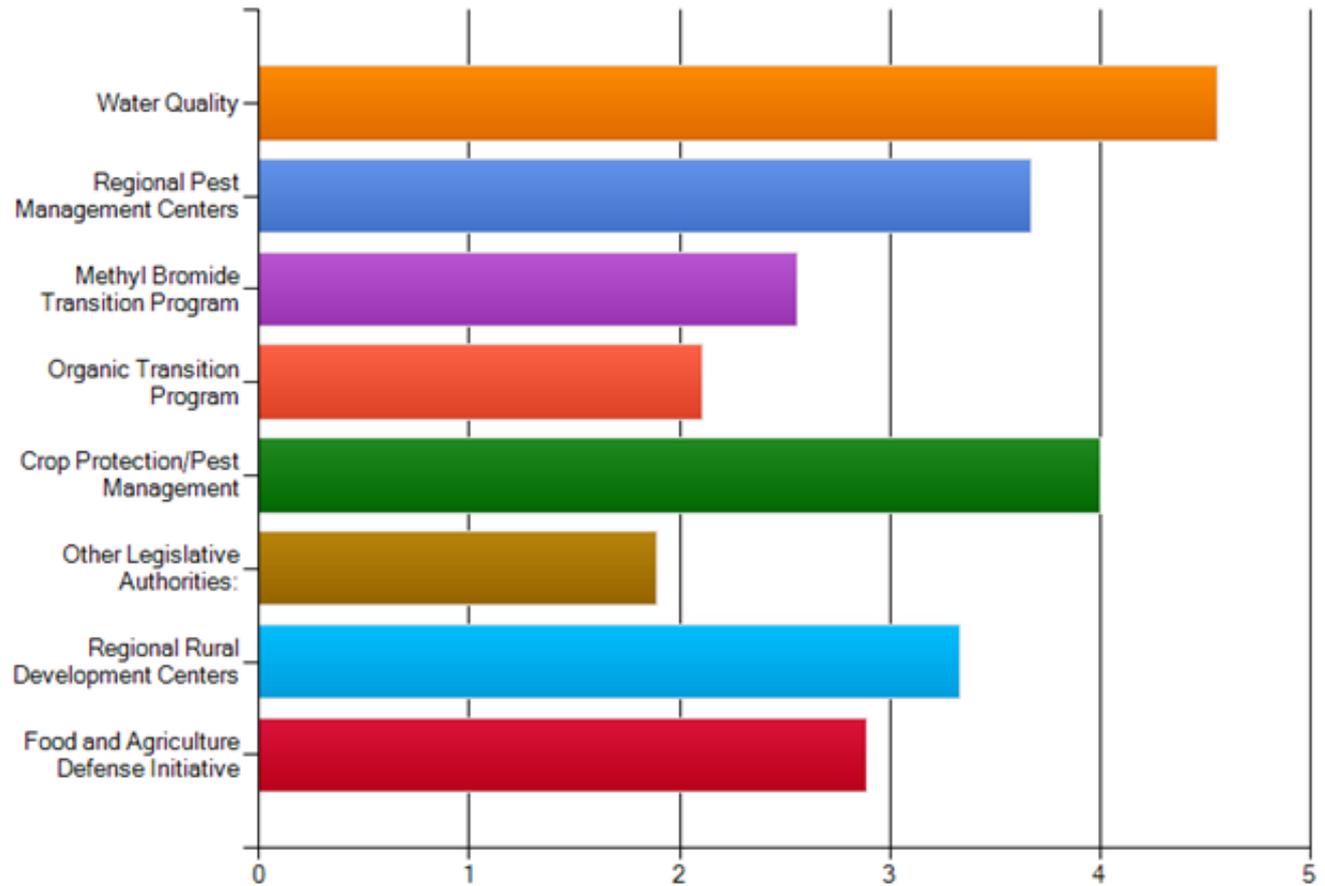
Below are all of the lines in the NIFA budget relating to Higher Education. Please rank each item.



* Same overall issues as West, slightly different ranking

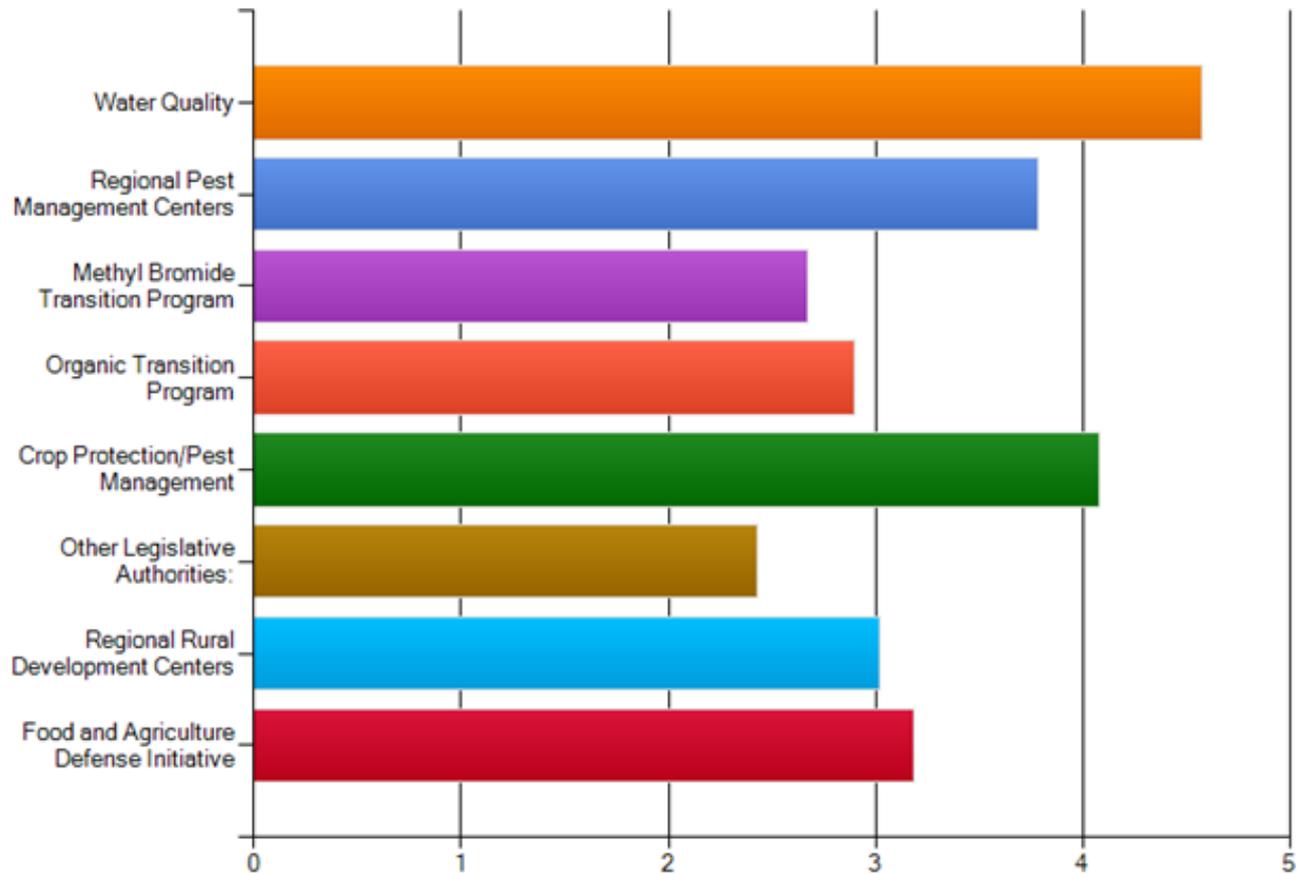
Q-3 WAAESD Summary

Below are all of the lines in the NIFA budget relating to Integrated Activities. Please rank each item.



Q-3 National Summary

Below are all of the lines in the NIFA budget relating to Integrated Activities. Please rank each item.



Q-4 Is there a priority line not listed above? *

- The survey didn't clearly reflect the mergers in the budget lines or the transfer of programs to NSF. Consequently, it was difficult to rank programs being merged or transferred.
- Water Quantity, Food Safety Food Processing & Preservation
- No - 5
- **Actually, there are too many lines. We need to combine some to protect the monies. Why let the politicians decide which lines get funded and which don't? We should revisit the single budget line as in NIH and NSF.**
- STEM education initiatives

* WAAESD responses in red

Q-5. Specify a program or topic the B&L and ESCOP needs to advance that is not necessarily associated with the USDA-NIFA budget.

- Would rank IPM related topics in #1 as 'highest priority' if pooled into one line
- Impact writing
- Nutrition, health and disease (2)
- Expand Policy Research include rural development, youth policy and poverty work in inner cities.
- **Enhance national plant germplasm system.**
- **Farm Animal Integrated Research**
- Climate change and its impact on agriculture and food security (2)
- **Biofuels/bioenergy**
- Linkages to NSF and NIH
- AFRI
- STEM education initiatives More collaborative competitive grant programs with other federal agencies (e.g., NSF, NIH, USAID)

* WAAESD responses in red

Q-6 Please identify one budget issue on which ESCOP and ECOP should work together

- AFRI (4)
- IPM and related lines
- Common messaging to feds on the issues addressed in the recent PCAST report
- Agricultural policy and advocacy
- Nutrition and health
- **Get buy in from both ESCOP and ECOP on the importance of competitive grants to both AES and CES. We shoot ourselves in the foot by admonishing the increase in competitive grant funds. We should be pushing for increases in all funding: capacity and competitive.**
- I am supporting ESCOP, ACOP and ECOP working together to foster a more effective (k-College) youth research educational program.
- **Integrated water quality (2)**
- Increase in both capacity and competitive funding
- **Capacity funding (4**
-)Applied research
- Institutional challenge grants
- Funding for graduate and postdoctoral fellowships
- Reducing the cost of Extension associated assessments

* WAAESD responses in red

Q 7. Please identify one budget issue on which ESCOP and ACOP should work together

- Formula funds (3)
- NIFA Graduate/Post-Graduate Fellowships (4)
- Capacity Development
- Find a way to increase student interest in agriculture and help devise a plan to market the importance of agricultural research to the US public.
- I am supporting ESCOP, ACOP and ECOP working together to foster a more effective youth (Pre-K -College) research educational program.
- Institutional challenge grants (3)
- Funding for climate change associated research
- Graduate student/postdoctoral training (beyond providing direct research support). NIH has instituted a number of requirements for training the "whole" individual (ie postdocs and grad students)

* WAAESD responses in red

Q-8. Please identify an emerging issue for future consideration by the ESCOP B&L Committee

- Mitigation of agricultural practices on climate change
- Growing AFRI
- **Holistic approach on water quantity and quality issues that we can address comparatively to other entities (4)**
- Nano technology in agriculture
- An emerging issue is to do with the vast amount of idle farm land that exists throughout the country side.
- **Rehabilitation, restoration, and reclamation of disturbed wildlands and watersheds.**
- The impact climate change is having on agriculture and food security is increasing at a fast pace and needs to be given full consideration for funding.
- Invasive species
- Climate change - mitigation and adaptation (2)
- How does ESCOP convince legislators that agriculture is science and part of any STEM discussion?

* WAAESD responses in red

Q-9. Please offer any suggestions you might have to strengthen ESCOP partnership with ECOP and ACOP

- If we are to work together, it is imperative to let the other two partners know about initiatives/positions being advanced before they are released
- Have a joint meeting to develop initiatives that are of interest to all and work on plans to move
- Stop using these acronyms!
- Annual joint meeting of executives, joint program planning, joint meetings together, periodic joint best practice sessions
- Coordinated grant activities and coordinated regional/national meetings
- **Work with Cornerstone to implement one line budget (3)**
- **Research and education on rehabilitation, restoration, and reclamation of disturbed wild lands and watersheds.**
- Additional joint meetings in Washington with agency heads and other key stakeholder agencies/groups. Chairs of ECOP and ESCOP and possibly ACOP should do this jointly.
- The partnership will only be strengthened if there's a defined goal that requires collaboration. The COPs meetings are generally highly predictable relative to the business side of things and generally lack purposeful discussions about areas of need that require the COPs to work together (not all of the problems requires a joint approach). There has to be a goal that is worked towards.

* WAAESD responses in red

Q-10 Are there other budget lines that could be considered for consolidation?

- Minority-serving lines (2)
- We need to get this resolved first! I suspect we need consolidated lines on animal health and on grant programs in #2 (consolidate lines and have competitions identified within lines)
- Higher Ed
- Animal Health and diseases and Veterinary medical Act
- **The lines should be consolidated as much as is possible. Complete consolidation to a single line is preferred (2)**
- Budget lines associated with water.
- No, the transaction cost is too high. We have more important things to do.
- Not sure (3)
- Most of the smaller Education programs should be combined into a single program to reduce transaction costs. Most have such small budgets that is difficult, if not impossible, to justify giving them high priority in the current federal budget climate.